

In the Claims:

The following is an amendment to the claims in ascending order showing a detailed listing of all claims that are or were in the application irrespective of whether the claim(s) remain under examination in the application, and pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121 (c).

Please amend Claims 9, 11 and 14, and cancel Claims 1-8, 10, 19-21 and 23-25 without prejudice as follows:

1-8. (Cancelled)

9. (Currently Amended) ~~The~~ An apparatus of claim 8 for adjusting the position of a steering wheel in a vehicle comprising:

a lower steering column jacket for attachment to the vehicle;

an upper steering column jacket engaged telescopically with said lower steering column jacket for telescoping movement for supporting a steering wheel in a desired longitudinal position relative to said lower steering column jacket;

a tilt housing engaged pivotally with said upper steering column jacket for tilting movement for supporting the steering wheel in a desired angular position relative to said upper steering column jacket;

a single drive mechanism for controlling said telescoping movement and said tilting movement;

wherein said single drive mechanism includes a first mode of operation for moving said tilt housing in said tilting movement relative to said upper steering column jacket and a second mode of operation for moving said upper steering column jacket in said telescoping movement relative to said lower steering column jacket;

wherein said single drive mechanism includes a single locking device for locking said single drive mechanism in one of said first mode of operation and said second mode of operation;

wherein said single drive mechanism includes a member pivotally connected to said tilt housing to direct said tilt housing in said tilting movement.

wherein said locking device selectively engages said member to lock said single drive mechanism in said second mode of operation;

wherein said locking device is further defined as being supported by and fixed to said upper steering column jacket;

wherein said single drive mechanism includes a motor fixedly connected to said lower steering column jacket;

wherein said motor includes a rotatable shaft and said member moves linearly in response to rotation of said shaft; and

wherein said member encircles said shaft.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Currently Amended) ~~The~~ An apparatus of claim 10 for adjusting the position of a steering wheel in a vehicle comprising:

a lower steering column jacket for attachment to the vehicle;

an upper steering column jacket engaged telescopically with said lower steering column jacket for telescoping movement for supporting a steering wheel in a desired longitudinal position relative to said lower steering column jacket;

a tilt housing engaged pivotally with said upper steering column jacket for tilting movement for supporting the steering wheel in a desired angular position relative to said upper steering column jacket;

a single drive mechanism for controlling said telescoping movement and said tilting movement;

wherein said single drive mechanism includes a first mode of operation for moving said tilt housing in said tilting movement relative to said upper steering column jacket and a second mode of operation for moving said upper steering column jacket in said telescoping movement relative to said lower steering column jacket;

wherein said single drive mechanism includes a single locking device for locking said single drive mechanism in one of said first mode of operation and said second mode of operation;

wherein said single drive mechanism includes a member pivotally connected to said tilt housing to direct said tilt housing in said tilting movement.

wherein said locking device selectively engages said member to lock said single drive mechanism in said second mode of operation;

wherein said locking device is further defined as being supported by and fixed to said upper steering column jacket;

wherein said single drive mechanism includes a motor fixedly connected to said lower steering column jacket;

wherein said motor includes a rotatable shaft and said member moves linearly in response to rotation of said shaft;

wherein said locking device includes a single locking arm engaged for pivoting movement with said upper steering column jacket between a tilting-locked position and a telescoping-locked position; and

wherein said locking arm includes a pivot axis associated with said pivoting movement and a first finger engageable with said lower steering column jacket when said locking arm is in said telescoping-locked position and a second finger engageable with said member when said locking arm is in said tilting-locked position.

12. (Original) The apparatus of claim 11 wherein said pivot axis is disposed between said first and second fingers.

13. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 11 wherein each of said first and second fingers and said member and said lower steering column jacket respectively carry mating teeth to engage one another.

14. (Currently Amended) ~~The~~ An ~~apparatus of claim 10~~ for adjusting the position of a steering wheel in a vehicle comprising:

a lower steering column jacket for attachment to the vehicle;

an upper steering column jacket engaged telescopically with said lower steering column jacket for telescoping movement for supporting a steering wheel in a desired longitudinal position relative to said lower steering column jacket;

a tilt housing engaged pivotally with said upper steering column jacket for tilting movement for supporting the steering wheel in a desired angular position relative to said upper steering column jacket;

a single drive mechanism for controlling said telescoping movement and said tilting movement;

wherein said single drive mechanism includes a first mode of operation for moving said tilt housing in said tilting movement relative to said upper steering column jacket and a second mode of operation for moving said upper steering column jacket in said telescoping movement relative to said lower steering column jacket;

wherein said single drive mechanism includes a single locking device for locking said single drive mechanism in one of said first mode of operation and said second mode of operation;

wherein said single drive mechanism includes a member pivotally connected to said tilt housing to direct said tilt housing in said tilting movement.

wherein said locking device selectively engages said member to lock said single drive mechanism in said second mode of operation;

wherein said locking device is further defined as being supported by and fixed to said upper steering column jacket;

wherein said single drive mechanism includes a motor fixedly connected to said lower steering column jacket;

wherein said motor includes a rotatable shaft and said member moves linearly in response to rotation of said shaft;

wherein said locking device includes a single locking arm engaged for pivoting movement with said upper steering column jacket between a tilting-locked position and a telescoping-locked position; and

wherein said locking device includes a slide block extending from said upper steering column jacket and supporting said locking arm for said pivoting movement.

15. (Original) The apparatus of claim 14 wherein said lower steering column jacket defines a slot and said slide block extends through said slot.

16. (Original) The apparatus of claim 15 wherein slide block defines an aperture and said member extends through said aperture.

17. (Original) The apparatus of claim 15 including a resilient member disposed between said slide block and said locking arm.

18. (Original) The apparatus of claim 15 wherein said slide block includes a pin portion extending transverse to said upper steering column jacket wherein said locking arm being supported by said pin portion for said pivoting movement.

19-21. (Cancelled)

22. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for adjusting the position of a steering wheel in a vehicle comprising:

a lower steering column jacket for attachment to the vehicle;

an upper steering column jacket engaged with said lower steering column jacket for telescoping movement for supporting a steering wheel in a desired longitudinal position relative to said lower steering column jacket;

a tilt housing engaged with said upper steering column jacket for tilting movement for supporting the steering wheel in a desired angular position relative to said upper steering column jacket;

a single drive mechanism for controlling said telescoping movement and said tilting movement;

wherein said single drive mechanism includes;

a first mode of operation for moving said tilt housing in said tilting movement relative to said upper steering column jacket and a second mode of operation for moving said upper steering column jacket in said telescoping movement relative to said lower steering column jacket,

a locking device for locking said single drive mechanism in one of said first mode of operation and said second mode of operation,

a member pivotally connected to said tilt housing to direct said tilt housing in said tilting movement, and

a motor fixedly connected to said lower steering column jacket;

wherein said locking device selectively engages said member to lock said single drive mechanism in said second mode of operation;

wherein said locking device is further defined as being substantially fixed to said upper steering column jacket;

wherein said motor includes a rotatable shaft and said member moves linearly in response to rotation of said shaft;

wherein said locking device includes a locking arm engaged for pivoting movement with said upper steering column jacket between a tilting-locked position and a telescoping-locked position; and

wherein said pivoting device includes a cam portion and said locking arm defines a slot cooperating with said cam portion as a cam-follower to direct said locking arm in said pivoting movement.